

Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Council Meeting
July 18, 2012
Minutes

Council Member Updates

Tom Goniea:

- Tom gave a PowerPoint presentation on the positive eDNA (environmental DNA) results for Silver Carp in Maumee Bay and Bighead Carp in Ohio waters that were collected in 2011 (presentation will be available on the AIS Web page). The Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Fisheries Division is following the Asian Carp Management Plan and the Asian Carp Communication Protocol. A command group has been established and is looking to partner with other agencies to get additional water samples. The command group is coordinating the movement of boats, working with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, etc. Work should begin in early August.
- Tom also gave a presentation on the Grass Carp collected in Marris Lake in Lenawee County in mid-June (presentation will be available on the AIS web page). The carp was collected via electroshocking; the Fisheries Division will be doing additional collections this week and will follow preset sampling protocol. Sample analysis showed this to be fish capable of reproduction.

Tim Eder:

- The Binational Risk Assessment looked at the risk and likelihood of establishment of Asian carp in the Great Lakes. If they get introduced, the probability that they become established is great. The Chicago Area Waterways System is most likely the entryway.
- Congress passed legislation charging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to accelerate the permanent solution to deal with invasive species moving between the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes by the end of January 2014. This is a bipartisan effort lead by United States Senator Debbie Stabenow and United States Representative Dave Camp.

Mark Burrows:

- Attended the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee. Tests being conducting in Illinois rivers is showing that deep gill nets are effective and show some promise in harvesting - 160 tons of carp were removed in the last month.

Joel Brammeier:

- A bill has been introduced in the Senate that would dramatically change the approach on how ballast water is addressed in regard to the United States Coast Guard.

Phragmites

Sue Tangora, Wildlife Division, DNR, gave a presentation on the background of invasive Phragmites (presentation is available on the AIS Web page).

Anne Hokanson, Water Resources Division, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), gave a presentation on Phragmites on Great Lakes Shorelines – Mechanical Treatment/Mowing (presentation is available on the AIS Web page).

Eric Bacon, Water Resources Division, DEQ, gave a presentation on Phragmites Chemical Treatment Permitting Requirements (presentation is available on the AIS Web page).

Heather Braun, Great Lakes Commission, gave a presentation on the Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative (presentation is available on the AIS Web page).

Organisms in Trade

Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature Conservancy, and Crysta Gantz, University of Notre Dame (via phone), gave a presentation on an Aquatic Plant Risk Assessment Tool for the Great Lakes that was modeled from a risk assessment tool used in New Zealand (presentation is available on the AIS Web page).

Tom Goniea gave a presentation on Harmonizing Federal and State Law, Michigan's Process for Listing Species per Part 413, Transgenic and Nonnative Organisms, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (presentation is available on the AIS Web page).

A report to the Governor and Legislature on recommendations on organisms in trade is due August 21, 2012. We will not be able to meet this deadline; therefore, the DEQ is proposing to send a letter to the Governor and Legislature requesting an extension. The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Advisory Council (Council) agreed to provide an update to the Governor and Legislature on the Council's work explaining why final report recommendations are not available. A draft letter was shared. The Council agreed to provide another update by the end of 2012.

Disease Free Certification Program

It was suggested to look at the AIS Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) approach rather than reinventing the wheel, looking at different pathways, what's already being utilized, what are the gaps, etc. Sarah LeSage suggested having the AIS Core Team take a look at this. It was also suggested that we get input from and consult with appropriate stakeholders (i.e., bait industries). Sarah LeSage will put together a table outlining what is already being done. A panel of industry experts will be invited to the September 27, 2012, Council meeting.

Education Program on Safe Usage for Buyers and Sellers

- Sarah LeSage has arranged for Pat Charlebois, Indiana/Illinois Sea Grant, to give a presentation.
- Mark Burrows will arrange a presentation on Habitatitude.
- Matt Smego will arrange a presentation by the Michigan Education Development Corporation on the Pure Michigan campaign.

Funding

Roger Eberhardt, Office of the Great Lakes, DEQ, discussed available general funding and funding sources, including the Federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant, Federal Implementation Grant for State Management Plans, and state funding. Roger briefly reviewed AIS program funding being utilized in other states. The Council requested additional information on what's in place now for funding. When considering funding options, the

beneficiaries need to be taken into consideration. A copy of the handout Roger prepared will be available on the AIS Web page.

Future Meetings

August 16, 2012, 9:30 a.m., Roscommon Township Hall, Roscommon

September 27, 2012, 9:00 a.m., Constitution Hall, Lansing

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.